

HOOVER GIVES HIS SIDE OF IT

Fixing of Sugar Prices Prevented Profiteering.

SAVED MILLIONS IN MONEY

Statement of Food Administrator Herbert Hoover in United States to the Heavy Movement of Sugar From Western Hemisphere to Europe—Charges of Refiner Claus Spreckels Receive Attention.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Food Administrator Herbert Hoover's statement on the sugar situation, which has not been made public before the senate committee investigating the sugar shortage, has been made public by the White House.

Mr. Hoover attributes the shortage here to the heavy movement of sugar from the western hemisphere to Europe and asserts that without the fixing of prices by agreement sugar would have been selling for 25 or 30 cents a pound and more than \$200,000,000 probably would have been procured from the American people by this time.

The statement contains the food administrator's reply to charges made before the committee by Claus Spreckels, president of the Federal Refining Company, that the sugar situation was manipulated, and sets forth in detail the administration's efforts to keep sugar prices down while supplying large quantities to the allies.

The committee, of which Senator Reed is chairman, not only had refused to make the statement a part of the congressional record, but has declined thus far to permit Hoover to take the stand to answer Spreckels' charges. When the hearing is resumed Friday, however, it is understood Mr. Hoover will be permitted to tell his story.

At the outset the statement presents the world sugar situation as it existed prior to the European war. The allies then produced much of their own supplies and purchased the remainder from Germany. Before the war they took only 200,000 tons annually from the western hemisphere. This year they have taken 1,400,000 tons. "That," says the food administrator, "is the cause of the sugar shortage, and nothing else."

The statement says the food administrator has handled the situation with a view to sustaining the morale of France and England, where the sugar ration has been extremely low for months, and at the same time preventing a jump in price to 20 or 25 cents here.

Shortage Will Continue.

Since the food administrator was created in August the United States has exported to the allies 115,250 tons of refined sugar and the same period Cuba has shipped to Europe 245,123 tons of raw product. This, it is declared, is just the amount of the shortage in the United States.

Even with these shipments, it is pointed out, the supply in England and France has been inadequate. Consumption in England has been reduced to 24 pounds a year for each person and in France to 14 pounds. The shortage, the food administrator says, will continue during next year, as it is the duty of the United States to continue to feed the allies. "Next year," he says, "our supplies will be short 250,000 to 300,000 tons unless the allies go to Java for supplies. This amounts to an economy of about 10 per cent on our part. If the allies are forced to go to Java it will require an extra amount of shipping, which, if used to transport troops, will move 150,000 to 200,000 American soldiers to France."

"If statements that there will be an abundance of sugar next year are believed by the American public it will do this country's war efforts incalculable harm. The number of troops we can send across is limited. If we in our greed and gluttony force the allies either to reduce their ration or to go to remote markets after sugar we will have done tremendous damage to our abilities within the war."

Charge that the food administration permitted sugar stocks to remain in parts of the country unmoved and denied, as are statements that sugar was left in Cuba while an effort was made to beat down Cuban prices.

SIXTEEN KILLED; 100 HURT

Toll of the Streetcar Accident at Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 26.—Sixteen persons were killed and 114 persons injured, some seriously, when a streetcar ran away in a tunnel connecting the South Side business district with South Hills. The car emerged from the tunnel after a wild dash and turned over on its side. Every person in the car was injured. The car was packed with city-bound shoppers when it left the station at the south end of the tunnel. A minute or two later the trolley was said to have left the wire and the lights went out. For some reason not yet determined, the motorman lost control and the car dashed down the steep grade, jumped the track, turned on its side and struck a telegraph pole.

CHAMBERLAIN'S TABLETS.

When you are troubled with indigestion or constipation, take Chamberlain's Tablets. They strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. Indigestion is usually accompanied by constipation and is aggravated by it. Chamberlain's Tablets cause a gentle movement of the bowels, relieving the constipated condition.

Million Letters in the Mails Today Bearing Magic Words "With the Colors"

Keynote of the Splendid Work the Y. M. C. A. Does Among Our Men in Uniform Is Keeping Them In Touch With the Folks at Home.

STAMPED WITH STARS AND STRIPES AND RED TRIANGLE

Multifarious Ways in Which the Association Appeals to Your Boy, Your Neighbor's Boy, or Some Boy You Know and Love—Creates a Helpful Environment in Cantonment, on Way Overseas, in Front Line Trench and Beyond—First to Aid as He Comes Tottering Back—Give Your Share of the \$35,000,000 Required to Accomplish This "Last Evidence That Somebody Cares."

It was evening on the broad, Hampstead Plain, Long Island, where the Rainbow division was spending its last night before embarking for France. It had been raining hard in the afternoon—a cold, steady autumn downpour—and there was nothing to suggest the rainbow in the outward aspect of the camp. Lines and lines of sodden canvas housed 27,000 men, gathered from 27 different states. The ground was dotted with pools and quagmires. Under the wet canvas it was damp and cold, with a penetrating chill. Lit by flickering candles, the tents were far from cheerful shelter for a man's last night in his native land.

But there were seven big tents where electric lights, numbers and friendliness made the night pleasant.



Games, Good Reading and Correspondence Facilities in Y. M. C. A. Building.

Each of these soldiers was strumming a piano; others were reading books and magazines; hundreds were writing letters home. Behind the rails of the car at one end three or four young men were busy passing out newspapers and envelopes, selling stamps and writing parcels, which the men were selling home. One of the boys said that as he stood in the tent used chiefly by men from Iowa: "We came all the way here from Des Moines, and we were mighty lonely. Then we found the Y. M. C. A. at the job, and it's been a home and more than a home to us. It gave us what we wanted when we needed it most. We'll never forget it. The boys' best friend is the Y. M. C. A. Fine, clean-cut, upstanding fellow."

How close these benches were packed with men, bending over the long tables absorbed in their writing! What an appeal to the sympathies these great groups of soldiers make! Fine, clean-cut, upstanding fellows, some of them mere boys, one thinks immediately of the sacrifice they have made for the rest of us and how precious they are to some one back home. Somewhere, in far off farm or village or city street, there are parents or brothers or wives who would give all they possess for one glimpse of those sunburned faces as you and I see them on their last night before going overseas. And it was with a throb of the heart that I watched them, bent over their letter paper, in one after another of those seven big tents.

These were the tents of the Y. M. C. A. On that last night in America the association was serving the soldiers in the best of all ways—giving them an opportunity to write home. On previous nights they had enjoyed boxing bouts, movies, concerts, dramatics and a score of healthy entertainments as well as religious meetings. But on this last night home ties were strongest. And perhaps that is the keynote of the splendid work the Y. M. C. A. is doing among our men in uniform—keeping them in touch with home.

Magic Words, "With the Colors." In these times there are some letters that mean more to us than any we have ever read before. They are written on sheets of paper stamped with the Stars and Stripes and the red triangle of the Y. M. C. A., and they bear the magic words, "With the Colors." There are many more than a million such letters in the mails now while you read this. Perhaps one at

least is on its way to you. Each one of our 16 cantonments, where the new national army is being trained, is using more than a million sheets of this paper every month. In the draft army alone that means 16,000,000 shipments of love every month reaching out from the great encampment where the men are being trained into the greatest army this nation has ever dreamed and binding them to the hearts at home. Multiply that by thinking of all the other places where Uncle Sam has men with the flag—in navy yards, on the high seas, in arsenals and officers' training camps and "Over There" in France. In all these places men are writing home. They are sending little sheets of notepaper, gladden millions of hearts at home. They transfer more love from a

forego coveted possessions or even necessities. The work must go on, because there is no one thing that contributes so much to the spirit and efficiency of the troops. The Y. M. C. A. is working night and day to help the government win this war. And every penny that is given to aid the work is a direct assistance to the health, happiness and strength of your boy and mine.

Snapshots of Kaleidoscope Work. In all the big cities in France where our men pass through in large numbers, the Y. M. C. A. is operating hostels, where they can get beds and meals at a minimum cost. In London the American Y. M. C. A. has erected a large building for our soldiers and a clubhouse for American officers.

There are Y. M. C. A. hospitals right behind the front line trenches, where the soldiers can get hot drinks, crackers and other comforts at all hours. Over 2,000 men who had been rejected on account of physical disability have been able to get into the British army by reason of the physical work of the British Y. M. C. A.

A fleet of motor cars leaves the big Y. M. C. A. headquarters in London at midnight every night to pick up soldiers who are wandering about the streets without any wholesome lodging in which to spend the night. These cars are operated by Englishwomen of position and refinement, who report that they never meet any discourtesy at the hands of the soldiers. The importance of this service can be estimated by the fact that at least 60,000 soldiers are on leave in London every week. Over half of these sleep in Y. M. C. A. beds every night.

Entertainment on Vast Scale. The Y. M. C. A. has erected a big auditorium, seating 3,000, in each of the big draft camps, and huge chalet-like tents, seating 2,500 in the other encampments. The association is running a 22 week entertainment circuit among the camps and is paying 16 companies of entertainers, who are traveling to 30 camps performing before the men.

In each of the draft camps the Y. M. C. A. has ten secretaries engaged in educational work. The association is seeing to it that every man who cannot speak English is taught to do so. In many of the camps the association has a singing director, who is teaching the men to sing the popular and martial airs that do so much to keep up their spirits.

Of 34 Y. M. C. A. men at Camp Dix only three are being paid full salaries. In all the camps the majority of the Y. M. C. A. men have left lucrative positions to do this work simply because its appeal is irresistible to any red blooded man. Harry Lander, the famous Scotch singer and comedian, now on his farewell concert tour in the United States, is giving all his spare time to the service of the association and is singing to the soldiers at all the camps he can reach.

In one of the draft camps the Y. M. C. A. is supervising athletics on 120 playing fields, providing full athletic equipment. The winners of the inter-regimental games will play the champions of the other camps.

One of the greatest services rendered by the association is the making



A Red Triangle Dupont in the Trenches.

out of money orders by which the men send the money home to their families. In some of the big camps the Y. M. C. A. is providing banking facilities for the men as well.

Do Your Bit With a Tanner. This month (November) the Y. M. C. A. must raise \$25,000,000 to carry on its work among our soldiers and their allies until next July. Of this \$25,000,000 about \$24,000,000 will be paid on the work with our own troops and about \$10 for every man in Uncle Sam's uniform. If everybody who has received letters from soldiers and sailors were to contribute \$10 the task would be easy. Are your boy's health and happiness and clean soul worth \$10 to you?

Your town mayor, your pastor, your school superintendent will know who is the treasurer of the campaign committee in your county or town. Otherwise send a check or money order to Cleveland E. Dodge, treasurer, 134 East Twenty-eighth street, New York City.

Only sacrificial giving by millions of givers will make possible the continuance of this vast work for American soldiers and for those of our allies.

Every One of Them Said

"We'll Deposit Our Money with the

Peoples Bank"

This Bank pays all your taxes on your money on deposit, and, in addition, pays you interest on time deposits.

"Watch Us Grow"

CURED AT A COST OF 25 CENTS

"Eight years ago when we first moved to Mattoon, I was a great sufferer from indigestion and constipation," writes Mrs. Robert Allison, Mattoon, Ill. "I had frequent headaches and dizzy spells and there was a feeling like heavy weight pressing on my stomach and chest all the time. I felt miserable. Every morsel of food distressed me. I could not rest at night, and felt tired and worn out all the time. One bottle of Chamberlain's Tablets cured me and I have since felt like a different person."

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